

ISCWP

国际中西哲学比较研究学会

International Society for Comparative Studies of  
Chinese and Western Philosophy

***From the Editor***

*Greetings, fellow members  
of ISCWP.*

*This issue features updates  
from the society's members  
on their various activities,  
a Call for Research  
Collaborator, and  
information on our  
Academic Support Fund.*

*We welcome your  
continued support and  
participation! To this end,  
please see the end of this  
newsletter for information  
on dues and donations.*

*Any inquiries or feedback  
regarding this issue are  
welcome. Please send them  
to Mercedes Valmisa:  
[mvalmisa@gettysburg.edu](mailto:mvalmisa@gettysburg.edu)*

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## Member News and Updates

### **Anna Hennessey, UC Berkeley**

Anna is currently a visiting scholar with the Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion at the University of California, Berkeley. Her work looks at the intersection of philosophy, religion and art in different cultural contexts. She recently published a chapter in *Religion and Sustainability: Interreligious Resources, Interdisciplinary Responses - Intersection of Sustainability Studies and Religion, Theology, Philosophy*, a volume that has been chosen as part of Springer's 2021 UN Sustainable Development Goals (chapter name: "Chinese Images of Nature, Body and Cosmos: Visualizing Human Physiology and Homeostasis with the Natural World"). As the 2020-2021 President of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Hennessey created a video for her March 2021 Presidential Address about her current research, which relates to art, religion and philosophy in the context of Catalan culture. The video is available through Vimeo at: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/528335593>. In June 2021, Hennessey also reviewed Veronica Rybanska's *The Impact of Ritual on Child Cognition* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2020) for *Reading Religion*, a publication of the American Academy of Religion (AAR).

Most recently, Hennessey has begun to publish videos she has created to be used in the teaching of graduate and undergraduate coursework. One video now available online through Academia.edu's new pilot program on video course creation relates to philosophy, art and religion in the context of medieval China (<https://www.academia.edu/courses/K1Ym91?tab=0&v=PEqm2E>).

Hennessey also recently began as an associate editor of *Sophia: International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions*.

### **James D. Sellmann, University of Guam**

I have been engaged in publishing four papers this year. "Field, Focus, Focused-field: A Classical Daoist World View and Physiology." In *One Corner of the Square: Essays on the Philosophy of Roger T. Ames*, University of Hawaii Press, 2021.

"Corelative thinking in Pacific Island (Micronesian) Cultural Philosophies, *Pacific Asia Inquiry*, vol. 11, 2020-21. [www.uog.edu/pai](http://www.uog.edu/pai)

"The *Daodejing* and the *Lüshi Chunqiu*: Huang-Lao Cosmic and Political Order." In *Dao Companion to the Philosophy of the Daodejing*. Edited by Liu Xiaogan. Switzerland: Springer Nature. Forthcoming.

"Zhu Xi, Daoism and Internal-Meditative Alchemy." In *Zhu Xi's Humanism*. Edited by Chun-chieh Huang. Taiwan. Forthcoming.

I also organized a panel on Pacific Philosophy for the Pacific History Association conference to be held in Suva, Fiji in November, 17-19, 2021.

### **Jamin Pelkey, Ryerson University**

I would like to announce the publication of an article on Zhuangzi and Peirce earlier this year:

Pelkey, Jamin. 2021. Zhuangzi, Peirce, and the butterfly dreamscape: Concentric meaning in the Qiwulun 齊物論. *Chinese Semiotic Studies* 17(2). 255-287. doi: 10.1515/css-2021-0013



**Kurtis Hagen, Independent Scholar**

I recently published a book titled *Lead Them with Virtue: A Confucian Alternative to War* (Lexington Books, 2021).

Drawing parallels with Daoism and Mohism, it challenges recent “just war” interpretations of Mencius and Xunzi, arguing that those interpretations derive Confucian criteria for the legitimate use of force that are too permissive. It argues that the “Confucian solution” to problematic situations is long-term-oriented moral leadership rather than military force, and that this position is not naïve.

I also published an article, “Xunzi and the ‘Great Pattern,’” in *International Communication of Chinese Culture* (2021), as well as the following book chapter: “Confucianism as a Tradition of Reconstruction: Returning to the ‘Way of Heaven’?” in *One Corner of the Square: Essays on the Philosophy of Roger T. Ames*, edited by Ian M. Sullivan and Joshua Mason (University of Hawaii Press, 2021).

**Li Youzheng, Independent Scholar**

The following two articles can be found also in the Chinese part of the website [www.semioticsli.com](http://www.semioticsli.com):

致良知为仁学伦理实践学之“新三纲”

----从历史符号学-解释学角度解析  
(2021年10月赣州第三届陇南阳明学大会论文稿) 68 pages.

English title: “‘To the conscience’ is the new ‘three ethical principles’: In terms of historical-semiotic/hermeneutic analyses”

回忆我与国际符号学交往的这四十年

----略谈“什么是符号学？”之问 20 pages.

English title: “In retrospect to my academic contacts with international semiotic activities over past 40 years.” To be published in the Chinese journal *Language and Signs* 语言与符号, Autumn Issue, 2021, The Tianjin University of Foreign Languages.

**Mathew A. Foust, Central Connecticut State University**

The following works came to fruition since the most recent issue of the ISCWP newsletter:

Book

Kim Díaz and Mathew A. Foust, eds., *The Philosophies of America Reader: From the Popol Vuh to the Present*. London: Bloomsbury, 2021.

Book Chapter

“To Be Humane (*Ren* 仁) Is To Humanize: Being and Becoming in the Digital Age” in *Confucianism and Deweyan Pragmatism: Resources for a New Geopolitics of Interdependence*, eds. Roger T. Ames, Chen Yajun, and Peter D. Herschok. University of Hawaii Press, 2021, pp. 242-256.

Articles

“Did Confucius Advise Zai Wo To Do What He Believed To Be Morally Wrong? Interpreting *Analects* 17.21,” *Asian Philosophy*, Vol. 31, No. 3, 2021, pp. 229-239.

“Thoreau and the Confucian Four Books,” *Philosophy Compass*, Vol. 16, No. 7, July 2021  
(<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1/phc3.12755>).

In addition, I have been serving as Chair of my department and have been promoted to the rank of Professor, effective Fall 2021.

**Mercedes Valmisa, Gettysburg College**

I'm excited to announce that my first book is out:



*Adapting. A Chinese Philosophy of Action*, Oxford University Press, 2021

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/adapting-9780197572962?cc=us&lang=en&>

**Robert Allinson, Soka University of America**

Professor Robert Elliott Allinson, Professor of Philosophy at Soka University of America, wishes to report that two reviews of his new book, *The Philosophical Influences of Mao Zedong, Notations, Reflections and Insights*, Bloomsbury Academic Books, 2020 have been published.

One review has been published in *Dao, An International Journal of Comparative Philosophy* by Professor Keqian Xu of Nanjing Normal University and can be found at <https://rdcu.be/cnmXV>.

Another review has been published in the *International Communication of Chinese Culture* by Jana Rosker of Ljubljana University and can be found at <https://rdcu.be/b1It0>.

"Mao is celebrated (or cursed) as a revolutionary leader, but the philosophical foundation of his activity is largely ignored. In his expert study, Allinson fills in this lack. Mao's thought is not just located in its historical context, its complex references to the Chinese traditional thought, to Marx and Western philosophy, but also to modern science (quantum physics), are explored and documented. A new Mao thus emerges, a Mao whose radical acts are grounded in a whole nature of philosophical reflections. Allinson's Mao is indispensable for everybody who wants to understand not just Mao but the concentration of philosophy and politics that characterized the twentieth century."

Shang Zhiyi, International Director of the Institute for the Humanities, University of London, UK

"Through extensive research, touching not only Mao's writings themselves but also the marginal notes he made in books he read, Allinson is able to trace the development of Mao's thinking over the course of his lifetime and to demonstrate the degree to which he was actively engaged with both the Chinese and Western philosophical traditions throughout. This is an invaluable contribution to our understanding of the intellectual history of China."

Michael Puett, Victor C. Kline Professor of Chinese History and Anthropology, Harvard University, USA

"Has it ever occurred to you to associate Mao with Aristotle or with the ancient Chinese Book of Changes, the *I Ching*? If you find it hard to believe, read this book by Robert Allinson who, in his own philosophical way, manages to inject new life and revived interest in this highly controversial but iconic figure which is still burning large behind the giant vision screen of present day China."

Anna Cheng, Chair of Chinese Intellectual History College of Eastern, Peking, China

"This is a most exciting and fascinating enterprise. A magnificent statement on behalf of East-West philosophy."

David H. Hsu, Former Director and East-Asian Professor Emeritus of Chinese History and Philosophy, Louis V. G. Center for East Asian Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

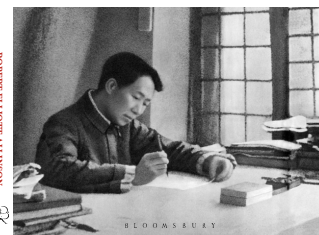
ROBERT ELLIOTT ALLINSON is Professor of Philosophy at Soka University, USA and formerly Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong



THE PHILOSOPHICAL  
INFLUENCES OF MAO ZEDONG

THE PHILOSOPHICAL  
INFLUENCES OF  
MAO ZEDONG  
NOTATIONS, REFLECTIONS  
and INSIGHTS

ROBERT ELLIOTT ALLINSON



In addition, Professor Allinson has published his invited chapter, 'The Whirlpool of Time,' in *Daoism and Time, Classical Philosophy*, 2021, Livia Kohn, (ed.), St. Petersburg, Three Pines Press, pp. 119-132. In this chapter, different anecdotes from the *Zhuangzi* are called upon to illustrate both Time's prison and the means to escape from the prison of Time; e.g., the story of the Cicada Catcher, the story of Cook Ding, of the dream stories of Mengsun, the anecdote of the Butterfly Dream story, the story of the Old man and the Whirlpool, the story of the Cackling Goose and stories about the life of Confucius from the *Analects*. Professor Allinson, *en passant*, philosophizes about the difference between Zen Buddhism and Daoism. He compares and contrasts the elements that constitute the process of time in Empedocles, Heracleitus, Hegel, Marx, Laozi and the interactions between the Yin and the Yang.

**Wang Xiaonan, Ludong University**

At these difficult times, it is critical that the international community makes efforts to unite more closely and fight more strongly against the global pandemic and racist violence.



To fight against the pandemic better, I appeal for greater coordination and more substantial cooperation among countries. Best regards!

Much of my study in this half year has focused on ancient Chinese philosophy and translation discourse. I published an academic article on Kumarajiva's Buddhist sutra translation discourse and my translated versions of two articles authored by other Chinese scholars on ancient Chinese philosophy.

Articles:

Wang Xiaonong, "Studying Kumarajiva's Buddhist Sutra Translation Discourse under the Background of Constructing Translation Theory of China." *Chinese Translators Journal*, 2021 (2): 29-36.

Translated articles:

1. Wang Xiaonong, trans. "Zhang Zai's Concept of the 'Knowledge of Moral Nature.'" *Confucian Academy*, 2021, No.1.
2. Wang Xiaonong, trans. "When the Mind is Bright and Clear, All Evils Evaporate: Wang Yangming's Views on Evil from the Angle of the Unity of Knowing and Acting." *Confucian Academy*, 2021, No.2.

Forthcoming translated works:

(Wang Xiaonong as translator or leading translator)

1. "Gems of Classical Chinese Prose" (*Guwen Guanzhi*).
2. "Getting to Know the Broad Meaning of the Great Learning" (*Daxue Guangyi*).
3. "Revealing the Truth of Life: An Interpretation of Heart Sutra" (*Xinjing Zhijie*).



## **CALL FOR RESEARCH COLLABORATOR**

### **SINIFICATION OF BUDDHISM**

Hi everyone, due to our receipt of grant funding, Daniel Lim and I (Ryan Nichols) need to identify a faculty or graduate student research collaborator who is expert in the history and philosophy of Chinese Buddhism to participate with us in some mixed methods research involving traditional close reading, machine learning, and a survey we will conduct starting next year.

This is a part-time, paid position. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining us to provide our team with historical, philosophical, and contextual knowledge about the Sinification of Buddhism, please get in touch with me (r nichols [at] Fullerton [dot] edu) with 'Buddhism research collaborator' in the subject line. Candidates should be in touch by 31 December 2021.

**Deadline: December 31, 2021**

**Contact: r nichols [at] Fullerton [dot] edu**



## *Academic Support Fund*

### **ACADEMIC SUPPORT FUND**

The ISCWP board will strive to promote the study of philosophy as a universal human activity with a myriad embodied and localized instantiations, focusing on the analysis of Chinese and Western philosophical traditions in an integrated manner and from a comparative perspective, by facilitating the creation of spaces for discussion and exchange of scholarship.

To advance this mission, we consider it particularly important to encourage and empower young scholars and scholars without stable or well-funded positions to be full participants of our intellectual community, present their work, engage in meaningful and constructive dialogue, and enjoy networking opportunities at our meetings.

In this spirit, we have started an Academic Support Fund. We encourage those of you who find themselves in a position to do so to contribute to this fund by paying your voluntary dues or making a donation to the Society. These funds will be used to provide travel support, reimburse APA conference registration fees, and cover other similar expenses for our forthcoming meetings.



## *Dues and Donations*

ISCWP's dues are voluntary but much needed. The suggested contribution is \$25 for regular members and \$10 for student members. Larger contributions are welcome.

We offer two ways of contributing dues:

### ***Online***

Preferred option. For the convenience of our members, we have established a Paypal account, which enables members to contribute dues by credit card. To use this method, please go to the [ISCWP Membership Page](#) and click on the appropriate button.

### ***By check***

Please make your check payable to ISCWP and send it to the following address:

Prof. Mercedes Valmisa  
102 Artillery Dr.  
Gettysburg  
17325 PA, USA

Many thanks,

Mercedes Valmisa  
Secretary-Treasurer, ISCWP